



Research Support

Rules for award of the Vice-Chancellor's medals for Master's Students

1 Aim

The Vice-Chancellor's medals are awarded annually to the best Masters student per faculty at the North-West University in a number of disciplines, as indicated below. This award is given in recognition of excellent work done by Masters Students at the NWU, and in addition to celebrate the continued efforts of study leaders and other academics in creating and sustaining a nurturing environment for these students.

2 Eligibility

Candidates in the various disciplines who submitted the final copy for examination in the previous year will be eligible for nomination, i.e. candidates whose degree was awarded at the spring ceremony of the previous year or the fall ceremony of the current year. Each faculty can nominate one candidate per category, as indicated below:

- Humanities
- Theology
- Health Sciences
- Commerce
- Law
- Engineering
- Natural Sciences
- Education

In order to avoid awarding the Vice-Chancellor's medal concurrently with the S2A3 bronze medal (same criteria), this medal will not be awarded in the faculty where the recipient of the S2A3 bronze medal is.

3 Selection procedure

- 3.1 The relevant dean (in consultation with the management committee of the faculty) is requested to nominate a candidate who completed the Master's degree (which must include a dissertation or mini dissertation) with distinction in the eligible period as indicated above. The nominated candidate should not exceed the maximum time allowed for completion of the Master's degree.
- 3.2 Nominations must be accompanied by the following documents (only 1 nomination per faculty per discipline):
 - completed nomination form;
 - examiner's reports;
 - first page of research output;
 - cover page of the dissertation;
 - other supporting documents

The documentation must be submitted in electronic format by e-mail to mpe.meintjes@nwu.ac.za

- 3.3 Adjudication Panel: The DVC: Research and Innovation will convene an adjudication panel to evaluate and make recommendations regarding the nominations received from faculties. The panel will include at least the DVC: Research and Innovation, the Director: Research Support and the

relevant Deans. The panel will restrict its discussion to the information as given in the submitted nomination form. If necessary, the relevant study leader can be requested to provide further motivation.

4 Guidelines for evaluation

- 4.1 All aspects of the Master's study (theory and practical examinations as well as the dissertation and/or mini dissertation) must be taken into consideration.
- 4.2 If the M-degree is followed directly after completion of a B-degree, the part that agrees with normal honour's study is not taken into consideration
- 4.3 The criteria for evaluation can include the following:

Articles originating from the study, presentations originating from the study that was presented at conferences as well as a general evaluation of the contribution of the study to the particular subject.

5 Presentation ceremony

The medal is presented at the annual research function each year.

6 Deviation from the Rules

Deviation from the rules may in certain cases be allowed with permission of the Vice Chancellor or his delegate.

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